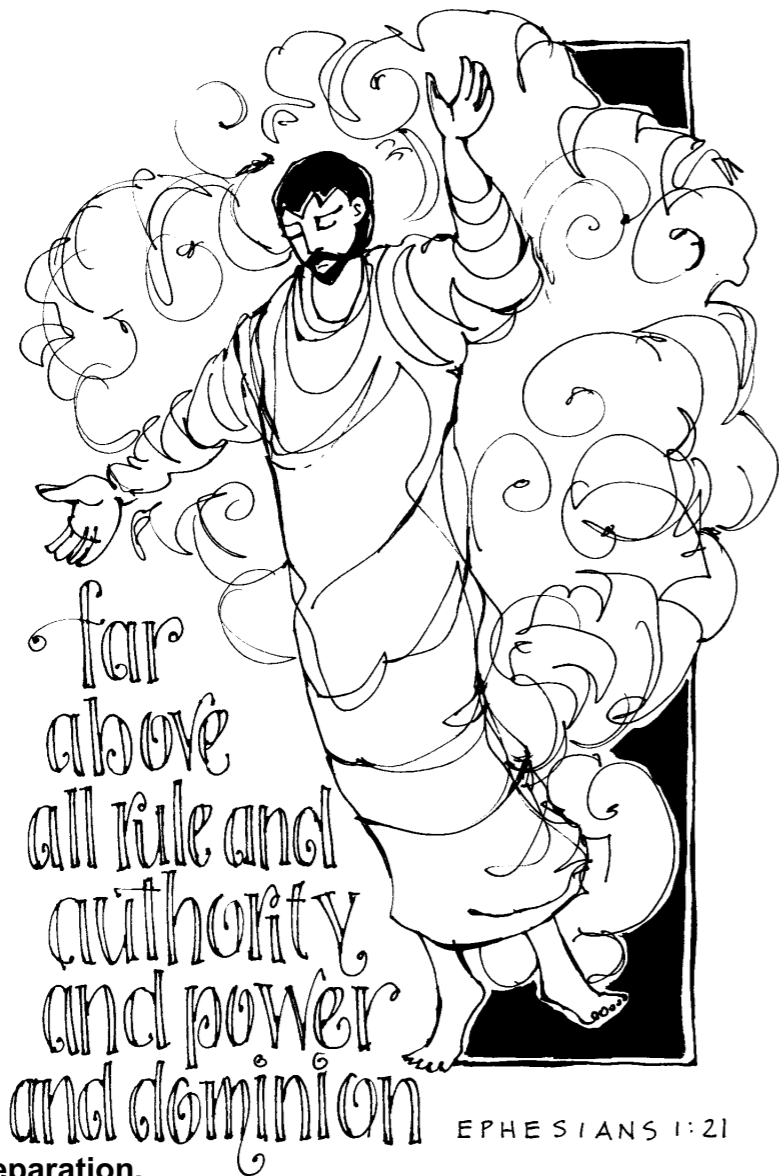


# THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

May 29, 2022

**"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."**



Music of Preparation,  
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting

**Our Ministry:** We are a people of God who are: **"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."**

**Welcome!** The Spirit invites all: "Let anyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life" (Revelation 22:17, NLT). Welcome.

**Devotions & Publications** are available in the Main Entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

## ..... WORSHIP NOTES .....

### **\*Communion: The Lord's Supper - A Reverent Sacrament**

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11:27,29, "Anyone who eats the bread or drinks the Lord's cup in an unworthy way is guilty of sinning against the Lord's body and blood. Anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the Lord's body brings judgment on himself as he eats and drinks." In view of the serious nature of the Lord's Supper, Paul commands us to examine ourselves to see if we are partaking the supper for the purposes for which Christ instituted with our hearts properly prepared. We heartily invite Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod to receive of the Lord's Supper. Other guests, we ask you to see the pastor or lay minister first so that you may receive the supper to your benefit rather than to your harm as the Apostle Paul warns.

NOTE: If you are allergic or cannot drink full strength wine, The two (2) cups in the center of each tray have water with a drop or two of wine.

**Note About Attendance Cards...**Remember that the only way we may know you are worshipping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. **Please list the name of each person in worship.** (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

**To Our Visitors...**Please sign our guest book found in the main entryway. Our school has a few nooks and crannies, so don't be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available near the guest register in the main (west) entryway.

## DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE

*(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 151 in the Hymnal)*

**Notes for Worship:** As you prepare to receive the Lord's Supper this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for use before and after receiving the Lord's Supper (page 308 as well as on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

### **Before worship prayer**

*Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. AMEN.*

### **We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!**

**Opening Hymn: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"** *LSB, hymn #717*

Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep Its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, whose voice the waters heard And hushed their raging at Thy word,  
Who walkedst on the foaming deep And calm amid its rage didst sleep:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.

Most Holy Spirit, who didst brood Upon the chaos dark and rude,  
And bid its angry tumult cease, And give, for wild confusion, peace:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and pow'r, Our people shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, Protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea.

### **INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b*

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:8-9*

P: Dear Friends in Christ, let us humble our hearts before our Holy God and silently reflect upon our sins.  
*(Moment of silent reflection)*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*

C: **Amen.**

### **KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy**

*Mark 10:47*

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: **(Sung) Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: **(Sung) Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: **(Sung) Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: **(Sung) Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **(Sung) Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

**This is the Feast** (Sung)

*Revelation 5:12-13, 19:5-9*

**C: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

P: The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**C: (Sung) And also with you.**

P: Let us pray . . . O ascended Lord Jesus, lift our hearts and minds to focus on Your continued presence among us. Empower us to be Your witnesses in our communities, state, nation, and throughout the world; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

**C: Amen**

*(Please be Seated)*

## THE READING OF THE WORD

**First Lesson:** Acts 1:1-11

*(You Are My Witnesses!)*

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at

this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

**Second Lesson:** Ephesians 1:15-23

*(The Ascended Christ Is Our Hope)*

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Stand

**Alleluia and Verse - Common**

*John 6:68*

**C: (Sung) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

**C: (Sung) Glory to You, O Lord.**

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: (Sung) Praise to You, O Christ.**

*(Please be Seated)*

**Sermon Hymn: "Up through Endless Ranks of Angels"**

*LSB, hymn #491*

Up through endless ranks of angels,  
Cries of triumph in His ears,  
To His heav'nly throne ascending,  
Having vanquished all their fears,  
Christ looks down upon His faithful,  
Leaving them in happy tears.

Death-destroying, life-restoring,  
Proven equal to our need,  
Now for us before the Father  
As our brother intercede;  
Flesh that for our world was wounded,  
Living, for the wounded plead!

To our lives of wanton wand'ring  
Send Your Spirit, promised guide;  
Through our lives of fear and failure  
With Your pow'r and love abide;  
Welcome us, as You were welcomed,  
To an endless Eastertide.

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Oh, to breathe the Spirit's grace!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Oh, to see the Father's face!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Oh, to feel the Son's embrace!

**Sermon: "Immeasurable Greatness"**

*Ephesians 1:15-23*

Stand

P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. . . .

Lord Jesus, we live in a world filled with hopelessness and fear. Yet You give fruits of the spirit of love and self-control, not fear. Lead us as we proclaim repentance and the forgiveness of sins in Your name to all nations. Ascended Lord,

**C: empower us to be witnesses of hope.**

P: Lord Jesus, we lift up to You those who are grieving. We pray that they do not grieve as those who have no hope. Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep. Ascended Lord,

**C: empower us to be witnesses of hope.**

P: Lord Jesus, we pray for those who are struggling with physical and mental health challenges. We pray that you be with those hospitalized this past week (*Especially, . . .*). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). Give them strength to meet the days ahead - healing of body, mind, and spirit - and ever-present reminders that You are always with them. Ascended Lord,

**C: empower us to be witnesses of hope.**

P: Lord Jesus, some may trust in horses and chariots, but we trust in the Lord, our God. As we put our trust in You, we pray for our elected leaders and ask that You lead them with Your wisdom, that they govern diligently and faithfully. Ascended Lord,

**C: empower us to be witnesses of hope.**

P: Lord Jesus, we look forward to that day when You will beat swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks. As we wait for that day, we ask that You watch over and work through all first responders and members of the military to bring peace and healing to our community and world. Ascended Lord,

**C: empower us to be witnesses of hope.**

*(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . .)*

P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

**C: Hear Our Prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen**

*(Please be Seated)*

## **Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards**

### **OFFERTORY - Let The Vineyards**

*LSB, Hymn # 955*

**C: (Sung) Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

*(In preparation to receive the Sacrament, please read the Communion notes on page 2)*

P: The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**C: (Sung) And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

*Colossians 3:1*

**C: (Sung) We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*Psalms 136*

**C: (Sung) It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

### **SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy**

*Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9*

**C: (Sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us, Your children, and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him

should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the redemption you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts that he may establish in us a living faith and prepare us joyfully to remember our Redeemer and receive him who comes to us in his body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION:**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat; this is my  $\dagger$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me. In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: Drink of it, all of you; this is my  $\dagger$  blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

*Mt 26:26-28, Mk 14:22-24, Lk 22:19-20, 1 Cor. 11:23-25*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. *John 20:19*

**C: And also with you.**

**Agnus Dei ~ The Lamb of God** *John 1:29*

**C: (Sung) Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*(Please be Seated)*

#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

##### **LSB537 - Beautiful Savior**

Beautiful Savior, King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee,  
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,  
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,  
Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration  
Now and forevermore be Thine!

##### **LSB821 - Alleluia! Sing to Jesus**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood."

Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received Him When the forty days were o'er,  
Shall our hearts forget His promise: "I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! Here the sinful Flee to You from day to day.  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea  
Where the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;  
Alleluia! Born of Mary, Earth Your footstool, heav'n Your throne.  
As within the veil You entered, Robed in flesh, our great High Priest,  
Here on earth both priest and victim In the eucharistic feast.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood."

#### **LSB494 - See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph**

See, the Lord ascends in triumph;  
Conqu'ring King in royal state,  
Riding on the clouds, His chariot,  
To His heav'nly palace gate.  
Hark! The choirs of angel voices  
Joyful alleluias sing,  
And the portals high are lifted  
To receive their heav'nly King.

Who is this that comes in glory  
With the trump of jubilee?  
Lord of battles, God of armies,  
He has gained the victory.  
He who on the cross did suffer,  
He who from the grave arose,  
He has vanquished sin and Satan;  
He by death has crushed His foes.

While He lifts His hands in blessing,  
He is parted from His friends;  
While their eager eyes behold Him,  
He upon the clouds ascends.  
He who walked with God and pleased Him,  
Preaching truth and doom to come,  
He, our Enoch, is translated  
To His everlasting home.

Now our heav'nly Aaron enters  
With His blood within the veil;  
Joshua now is come to Canaan,  
And the kings before Him quail.  
Now He plants the tribes of Israel  
In their promised resting place;  
Now our great Elijah offers  
Double portion of His grace.

He has raised our human nature  
On the clouds to God's right hand;  
There we sit in heav'nly places,  
There with Him in glory stand.  
Jesus reigns, adored by angels;  
Man with God is on the throne.  
By our mighty Lord's ascension  
We by faith behold our own.

#### **POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: Thank The Lord:**

**C: (Sung) Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

#### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**P:** Let us pray. . . . Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast that awaits us when Your Son returns. Keep us firm in the true faith and lead us as Your witnesses, proclaiming repentance and the forgiveness of sins to everyone in the name of Your Son, our ascended Lord, in whose name we pray.

**C: Amen**

**BENEDICTION**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: **(Sung) Amen**

**Closing Hymn: “God Bless Our Native Land”** *LSB, hymn #965*

God bless our native land; Firm may she ever stand  
Through storm and night. When the wild tempests rave,  
Ruler of wind and wave, Do Thou our country save  
By Thy great might.

So shall our prayers arise To God above the skies;  
On Him we wait. Thou who art ever nigh,  
Guarding with watchful eye, To Thee aloud we cry:  
God save the state!

**See You In Worship Next Week!**

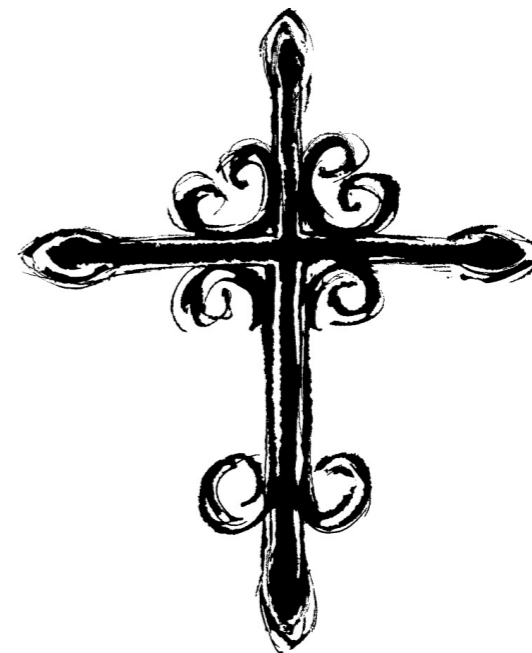
***After worship prayer***

*Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.*

*There is a Prayer Ministry Member(s) in each service that is wearing a prayer ministry tag around their neck. Please look for them if you want a prayer for someone else, a concern or situation you may have, or yourself.*

*Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.*

**Altar Flowers** Altar flowers this weekend are given in loving memory of my husband, Jerry; mother, Edna Curwick; and great-granddaughter, Winona June, by Carol Ginger; also in honor of Bob & Linda Bohlmann’s 40th wedding anniversary on May 29<sup>th</sup>, by their children; and with thanks to God for all those who serve and have served our country, past and present, by Jim & Jenny Mossman.



**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

<b>Rev. Karl J. Koeppen</b> . . . . . Senior Pastor	<b>Rev. David Baker</b> . . . . . Missionary to Mongolia
<b>Rev. Roger A. Drinnon</b> . . . . . Associate Pastor	<b>Church &amp; School Office:</b> . . . . . 932-0312
<b>Jamie Stirnaman</b> . . . . . Interim Principal	<b>Mary Weber, Family Counselor</b> . . . . . 932-0312 ext 1458
<b>Church Campus</b> . . . . . 348 E. Merchant, Kankakee	
<b>School Campus and Church &amp; School Office</b> . . . . . 1780 Career Center Road, Bourbonnais	
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**(PK)**

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